

A person wearing a blue long-sleeved shirt is sitting on a couch, using a silver laptop. The laptop screen displays the Ameren website. A semi-transparent white box with a thin black border is overlaid on the center of the image, containing the title and date of the program.

**Ameren Illinois Energy Efficiency Program
Small Business Resources
June 8, 2020**

Speaker Panel



Kristol Simms

Director of Energy Efficiency, Strategy and Innovation, Ameren Illinois



Carla Walker-Miller

CEO, Walker-Miller Energy Services



Lotika Pai

Managing Director of Access to Capital, Women's Business Development Center (WBDC)



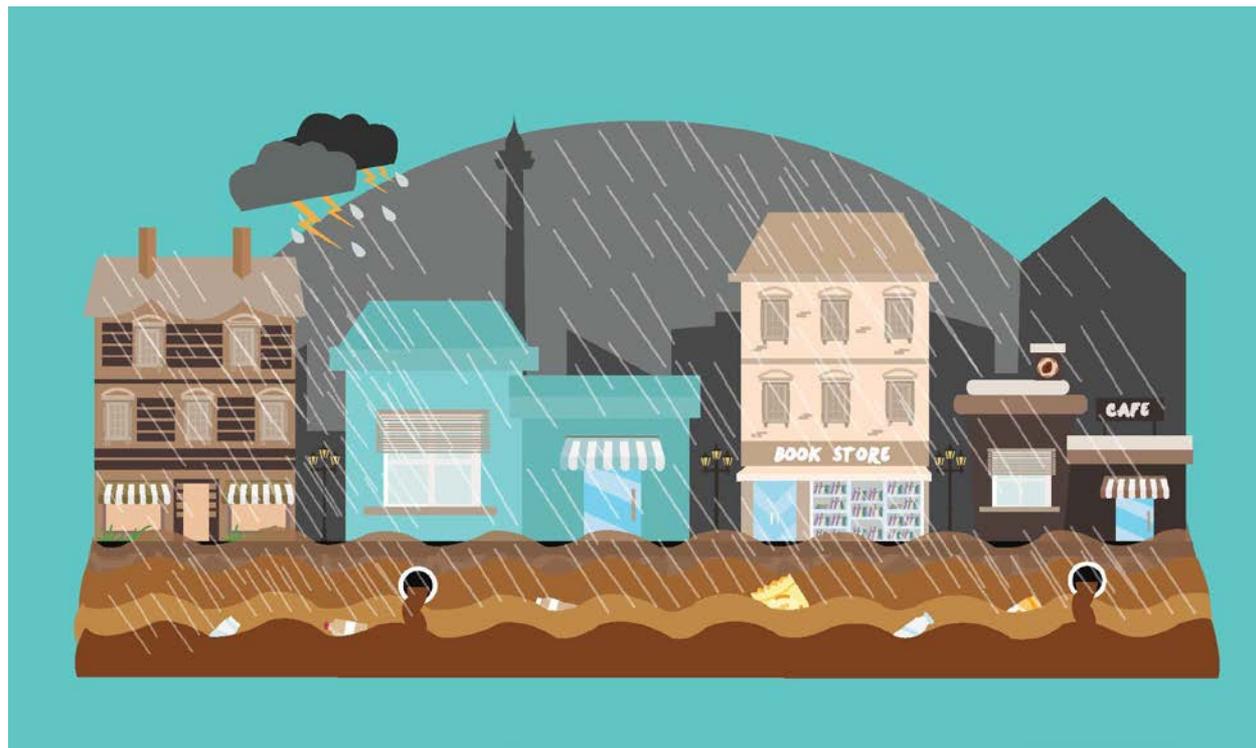
Employment Effects of COVID-19





Ameren Illinois COVID-19 Support

AmerenIllinoisSavings.com/COVID-19





Ameren Illinois Small Business Resource

COVID-19 Economic Hardship Recovery Program





SBDI Resources





Carla Walker-Miller
CEO, Walker-Miller Energy Services

Paycheck Protection Program (PPP)



From the Federal CARES (Corona Aid Relief and Economic Security) Act

- Small Business *Forgivable* Loans

up to the lesser of \$10 million OR 2.5 times the monthly payroll.

- Available to Individual Contractors or businesses up to 500 employees
- Loans from \$500 to \$10,000,000
- Average loan size: \$10,000
- Funds Typically Issued within 10 business days of Approval
- 1% Interest Fully or Partially Forgivable

As of June 7, more than \$100,000,000 is still available

PPP Features

Employees do not have to be working. Funds can be used to retain or rehire staff.

Forgiveness

Based on use of funds and employee/wage retention

- 60% must be used for payroll costs
- 40% for utilities, rent, mortgage interest, equipment leases, and other expenses
- Available to self-employed/“gig economy” workers and nonprofits
- Available through December 31, 2020 or until funds are exhausted
- 5-year repayment terms

PPP Forgivable Payroll Costs

Salary, wages or similar compensation including

- Payment of cash tips or equivalent
- Vacation, parental, family, medical, or sick leave
- Allowance for dismissal or separation
- Group health care, including insurance premiums, retirement
- State or local tax assessed on the compensation of employees
- Any documented compensation that is a wage, commission, income, net earnings from self-employment of not more than \$100,000 in 1 year

Important PPP Benefits

- Employees do not have to be actively working to be paid
- Can be used to rehire or pay hiring bonuses to laid off employees
- A Banking Relationship is Not Required
- No Personal Financial Statement Required
- Credit Scores Are Not Required
- Available even if EIDL (Economic Injury Disaster Loans) were received
- No Prepayment Penalty
- The 1% Interest is only paid on the unforgivable portion of the loan

Helpful PPP Resources

FIND A LENDER <https://www.sba.gov/paycheckprotection/find>

PPP Borrower Application [SBA PPP Application](#)

How to Calculate Loan Amounts [SBA PPP Loan Amount Estimator](#)

Paychex PPP Loan Forgiveness Estimator [Paychex Loan Forgiveness Estimator](#)

SBA Illinois District Office [SBA Chicago, Springfield Website](#)

SBA DISASTER ASSISTANCE CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTER

Phone (800) 659-2955 Weekdays from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern

Or email 24 hours a day at: disastercustomerservice@sba.gov



Lotika Pai

Managing Director of Access to Capital, Women's Business Development Center (WBDC)

BUSINESS RESOURCES



Your growth is our *business*.





Introductions

Founded in 1986 on the concept of inclusive entrepreneurship, the mission of the [Women's Business Development Center \(WBDC\)](#) is to support and accelerate business development and growth, targeting women, veterans, minorities, and other underserved communities in order to strengthen their participation in and impact on the economy.

HELLO
MY NAME IS

Lotika Pai

Managing Director, Access to Capital
Women's Business Development
Center



Planning for Recovery

Liquidity vs. Solvency



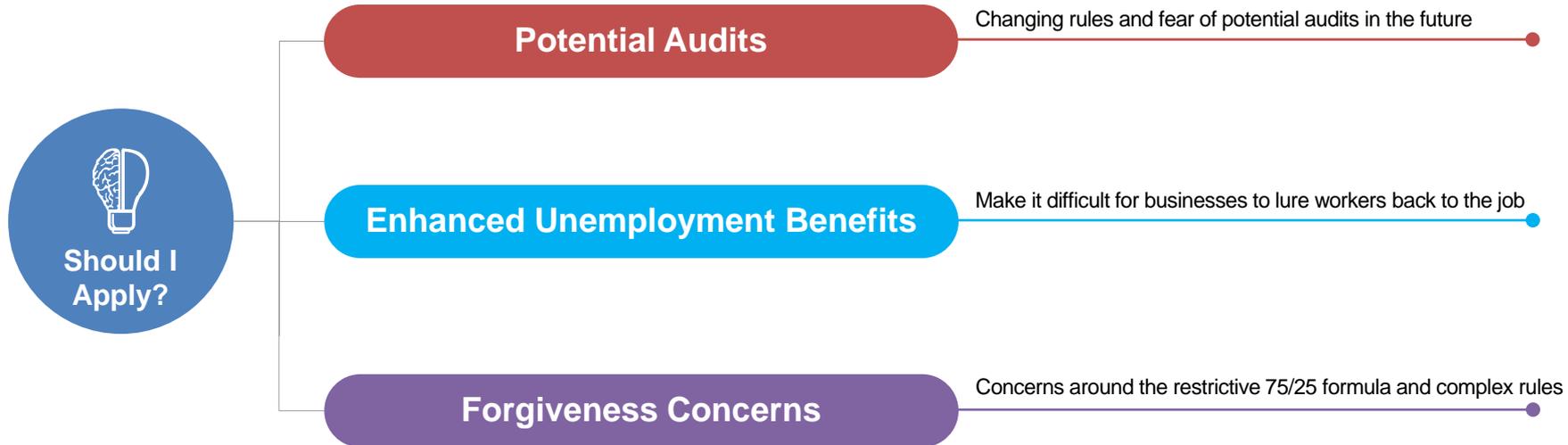
Cash & Debt: In good times and bad times

- The precipitous drop in demand from consumers, businesses and government has added pressure for businesses to manage cash and their debts wisely.
- How do you think about maintaining liquidity over the next 12-24 months while the economy gradually re-opens?
- PPP – is it right for me?
 - Execution was far from satisfactory due to speed of rollout.
 - Many small businesses balked at taking on this additional debt in the second round.
 - There is still money available!
 - Even if uncertain about the loan being forgiven, if you are solvent, it might be optimal to take out a PPP loan to **bridge the liquidity crisis.**

PPP restrictions contributed to dampened demand



After a rush to replenish the program with \$310 billion in additional funding, the second funding round began April 27. More than a month into round two, there's more than \$100 billion still left unallocated for small businesses.



Adjusting Expectations

Business owners who had strong business plans before the COVID crisis likely based their plans on financial projections that are no longer realistic. How should a business owner think about adjusting expectations?





**COVID-19
Related Business
Resources in Illinois**

Emergency Funds For Small Businesses in Illinois



CHICAGO SMALL BUSINESS RELIEF FUND

For small businesses
located inside
Chicago.



ILLINOIS SMALL BUSINESS EMERGENCY LOAN FUND

Priority given to small
businesses located
outside Chicago



COOK COUNTY COMMUNITY RECOVERY FUND

Primary business
location in Cook
County outside of
Chicago.

COVID-19 Illinois Government Resources



ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

DCEO is working diligently to secure access to helpful resources for small businesses throughout the State of Illinois and has compiled these helpful links regarding COVID 19 resources for small businesses.

[https://www2.illinois.gov/dceo/SmallBizAssistance/Pages/Coronavirus-Disease-2019-\(COVID-19\)-Information-for-Small-Business.aspx](https://www2.illinois.gov/dceo/SmallBizAssistance/Pages/Coronavirus-Disease-2019-(COVID-19)-Information-for-Small-Business.aspx)

<https://coronavirus.illinois.gov/s/>

CITY OF CHICAGO BUSINESS AFFAIRS AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

The Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection (BACP) is working closely with the Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH) to communicate updated guidance with the businesses, consumers and employees affected by this crisis.

<https://www.chicago.gov/city/en/sites/covid-19/home.html>

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

In an effort to assist eating and drinking establishments impacted by the COVID-19 outbreak, effective immediately, the Illinois Department of Revenue (IDOR) is waiving any penalty and interest that would have been imposed on late Sales Tax payments from qualified taxpayers.

<https://www2.illinois.gov/rev/Pages/Taxpayer-Resources-during-COVID-19-%28Coronavirus%29-Outbreak.aspx>

Navigating COVID-19 Services and Resources



<https://www.wbdc.org/covid-19/>

FEDERAL DISASTER LOANS AND GRANTS Many small business owners are struggling to get started. There are loan and grant opportunities available for financial relief by the Federal Government through the Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

EMERGENCY LOAN PROGRAMS BY STATE State, City and local governments have stepped up in a significant way and have launched loan funds for small business owners with attractive terms.

WBDC DIRECT LENDING PROGRAM Restricted for State of Illinois With funding directed towards Illinois-based businesses, we are supporting small and micro business in low to moderate income communities through the WBDC Direct Lending Program.

GRANTS Funders from across the country are extending opportunities for small and microbusinesses to seek grant aid. Many small and micro do not have the capacity to absorb additional debt. The various grant programs aim to address the gap.

TAX BENEFITS Taxes can be tough for small businesses during the best of times; now, they are more daunting than ever. That's why the federal government has taken steps to give small businesses a reprieve.

UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS The Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act provides three important expansions to unemployment. These expansions are federal programs, but they will be administered through the states.

QUESTIONS?

WWW.WBDC.ORG

312-853-3477 x 0



Your growth is our *business*.





AmerenIllinoisSavings.com



A man wearing glasses and a blue button-down shirt is seated at a desk in a control room. He is looking at several computer monitors displaying data. His hands are on a keyboard. The scene is dimly lit, with the primary light source being the screens.

APPENDIX

Ameren Illinois Energy Efficiency Program

COVID-19 Support



AmerenIllinoisSavings.com/COVID-19

- Financial assistance for Ameren Illinois customers
- Service disconnections suspended and forgiveness of late fees for non-payment until further notice
- Customers needing assistance with paying their bill should contact the customer care team at [AmerenIllinois.com](https://www.AmerenIllinois.com) for payment options
- Resources for small business support
- Resources on appropriate PPE
- Links to information to support your business
- Links to webinars with Information on COVID-19



Ameren Illinois Small Business Resource

COVID-19 Economic Hardship Recovery Program



- One time \$500 grants
- First come/first served until June 30 or funds exhausted
- Must have:
 - Active, non-residential account
 - 50 or fewer Full Time employees
 - A principal office in Illinois

Grant recipients will have funds applied directly to their electric accounts

Apply at AmerenIllinois.com/Recovery or call 800.232.2477





AmerenIllinoisSavings.com

